

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BAGHDA 00851 221029Z
ACTION INR-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 PM-05

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 PA-01 (ISO) W
-----033585 231536Z /14

R 220813Z APR 78
FM USINT BAGHDAD
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6051
INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL BAGHDAD 0851

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PINS, IZ, UR
SUBJECT: ALLEGED SOVIET BUGGING OF IRAQI PRESIDENTIAL PALACE

REF: (A) BAGHDAD 0823, (B) STATE 97934.

1. LOCAL CONTACTS EXPRESS CONSIDERABLE SKEPTICISM ABOUT REPORTS THAT SOVIETS MAY HAVE BUGGED IRAQI PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. CONSENSUS SEEMS TO BE THAT IT WAS A JUICY NEWS STORY, BUT PROBABLY INVOLVED A HIGH DEGREE OF JOURNALISTIC IMAGINATION. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE NOTE THAT ROUGHLY THE SAME STORY WAS CARRIED IN THE PERISCOPE SECTION IN "NEWSWEEK INTERNATIONAL" EDITION OF APRIL 3.

2. WITH THE EXCEPTION OF CAREFULLY CONTROLLED TRANSIT TO AND FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, THE SOVIET EMBASSY AND THE CHINESE EMBASSY, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR OUTSIDERS TO GO ANYWHERE IN THE SECURE AREA. IT IS EVEN MORE DIFFICULT TO ENTER THE GROUNDS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE. FOR EXAMPLE, ELECTRICIANS CALLED IN TO WORK ON THE PALACE ARE FROM THE IRAQI MILITARY. CONTRARY TO ASSERTION IN NEWSWEEK STORY, SOVIET EMBASSY AND PALACE ARE NOT ADJOINING. PALACE IS APPROXIMATELY FIVE

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HUNDRED YARDS FROM SOVIET EMBASSY WITH NO LINE OF SIGHT.
MACK

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MONITORING, SURVEILLANCE, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 apr 1978
Decapton Date: 01 jan 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BAGHDA00851
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: BAGHDAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780428/aaaaaxrc.tel
Line Count: 58
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 861b54a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION INR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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